

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended): A process for preparing (meth)acrylic esters (F)
~~containing comprising at least one urethane groups by group comprising~~

- c) reacting an alcohol (C) ~~containing comprising at least one urethane groups group~~
with (meth)acrylic acid or ~~with a saturated alcohol (D) an~~ ester of (meth)acrylic acid
~~with a saturated alcohol (D), and~~
- e) ~~— if desired, working up the reaction mixture from c), which comprises~~
~~conducting the reaction e) in the presence of an enzyme (E).~~

Claim 2 (Canceled).

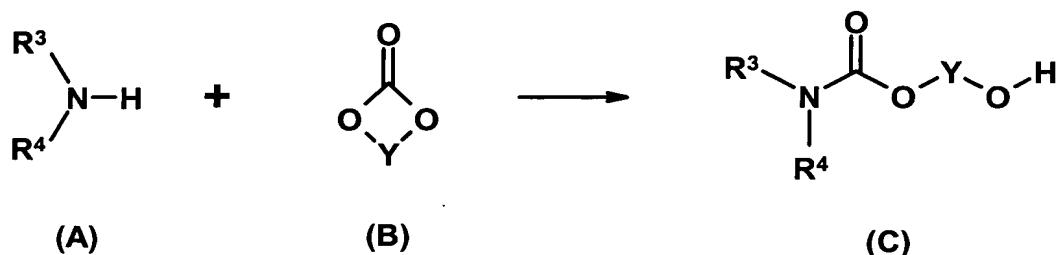
Claim 3 (Currently Amended): A ~~The process as claimed in of~~ claim 1 or 2, wherein
the conversion in stage c) is set to at least 95%.

Claim 4 (Currently Amended): A ~~The process as claimed in of~~ claim 1 ~~any of the~~
~~preceding claims~~, wherein the reaction c) is conducted at from 20 to 80°C.

Claim 5 (Currently Amended): ~~A process as claimed in any of the preceding claims, wherein~~ The process of claim 1, wherein the alcohol (C) comprising containing at least one urethane groups group is obtainable by

- a) reacting an amine (A) with a carbonate (B), and
- b) ~~if desired, working up the reaction mixture obtainable from a).~~

Claim 6 (Currently Amended): A ~~The process of claim 5 as claimed in claim 5,~~ wherein the alcohol (C) containing comprising at least one urethane groups is obtainable by a reaction comprising



in which wherein

R³, and R⁴ independently are hydrogen, a C₁–C₁₈ alkyl, a C₂–C₁₈ alkyl uninterrupted or interrupted by one or more oxygen and/or sulfur atoms and/or by one or more substituted or unsubstituted imino groups, or are a C₂–C₁₈ alkenyl, a C₆–C₁₂ aryl, a C₅–C₁₂ cycloalkyl or a five-~~to~~ or a six-membered heterocycle containing comprising oxygen, nitrogen and/or sulfur atoms, it being possible for each of the radicals stated to be substituted by aryl, alkyl, aryloxy, alkylene, heteroatoms and/or heterocycles, or are a group of the formula $[X_i]_k$ –H; and

Y is a C₂-C₂₀ alkylene or a C₅-C₁₂ cycloalkylene or is a C₂-C₂₀ alkylene which is interrupted by comprising one or more oxygen and/or sulfur atoms and/or by one or more substituted or unsubstituted imino groups and/or by one or more cycloalkyl, -(CO)-, -O(CO)O-, -(NH)(CO)O-, -O(CO)(NH)-, -O(CO)- or -(CO)O- groups, it being possible for each of the radicals stated to be substituted by aryl, alkyl, aryloxy, alkylxy, heteroatoms and/or heterocycles,

k is a number from 1 to 50, and

X_i for i = 1 to k, can be is selected independently from the group consisting of -CH₂-CH₂-O-, CH₂-CH₂-N(H)-, CH₂-CH₂-CH₂-N(H)-, CH₂-CH(NH₂)-, -CH₂-CH(NHCHO)-, CH₂-CH(CH₃)-O-, CH(CH₃)-CH₂-O-, -CH₂-C(CH₃)₂-O-, C(CH₃)₂-CH₂-O-, CH₂-CH₂-CH₂-O-, CH₂-CH₂-CH₂-O-, CH₂-O-, CH₂-CHVin-O-, CHVin-CH₂-O-, CH₂-CHPh-O-, and -CHPh-CH₂-O-, where wherein Ph stands for phenyl and Vin stands for vinyl.

Claim 7 (Currently Amended): A (Meth)acrylic esters ester containing comprising at least one urethane groups and obtainable by

- a) reacting a polyethyleneimine, a hydrogenated polyacrylonitrile, a straight-chain, a branched chain or a dendritic polymer having amino functions or an at least partly hydrolyzed poly-N-vinylformamide having a weight-average molecular weight M_w of from 200 to 1 000 000 with a carbonate (B) at a temperature of from 0 to 120°C,
- b) if desired, working up the reaction mixture obtainable from a),

- c) reacting the reaction mixture from a) or b) with (meth)acrylic acid or with an a saturated alcohol (D) ester of (meth)acrylic acid ~~with a saturated alcohol (D)~~ in the presence of an enzyme (E), and
- d) ~~if desired, working up the reaction mixture from c).~~

Claim 8 (New): The process of claim 1, further comprising working up the reaction mixture c).

Claim 9 (New): The process of claim 8, wherein the working up comprises conducting the reaction c) in the presence of an enzyme (E).

Claim 10 (New): The process of claim 9, wherein the enzyme (E) is a lipase, an esterase or a protease.

Claim 11 (New): The process of claim 5, further comprising working up the product of the reaction a).

Claim 12 (New): The process of claim 7, further comprising working up the product of the reaction a) before conducting step c).

Claim 13 (New): The process of claim 7, further comprising working up the product of the reaction c).

Claim 14 (New): The process of claim 6, wherein R^3 , R^4 , or R^3 and R^4 independently are a C_2 – C_{18} alkenyl, a C_6 – C_{12} aryl, a C_5 – C_{12} cycloalkyl or a five membered heterocycle or a six-membered heterocycle comprising oxygen, nitrogen and/or sulfur atoms, and wherein at least one of R^3 and R^4 are substituted by an aryl, an alkyl, an aryloxy, an alkyloxy, at least one heteroatom, a heterocycle, a group of the formula $-[X_i]_k-H$, or a combination thereof; wherein k is a number from 1 to 50, and wherein X_i , for $i = 1$ to k , is selected from the group consisting of $-CH_2-CH_2-O-$, $-CH_2-CH_2-N(H)-$, $-CH_2-CH_2-CH_2-N(H)-$, $-CH_2-CH(NH_2)-$, $-CH_2-CH(NHCHO)-$, $-CH_2-CH(CH_3)-O-$, $-CH(CH_3)-CH_2-O-$, $-CH_2-C(CH_3)_2-O-$, $-C(CH_3)_2-CH_2-O-$, $-CH_2-CH_2-CH_2-O-$, $-CH_2-CH_2-CH_2-CH_2-O-$, $-CH_2-CHVin-O-$, $-CHVin-CH_2-O-$, $-CH_2-CHPh-O-$, and $-CHPh-CH_2-O-$, wherein Ph stands for phenyl and Vin stands for vinyl.

Claim 15 (New): The process of claim 6, wherein the radical Y is substituted by an aryl, an alkyl, an aryloxy, an alkyloxy, at least one heteroatom, a heterocycle, or a combination thereof.